

According to a [petition](#) filed with the Federal Communications Commission by Marriott International and other hotels, Marriott would like to the FCC to declare that a hotel's management of its Wi-Fi networks does not violate section 333 of the Communications Act if management of its Wi-Fi operations interfere with Wi-Fi hot spots authorized under the FCC's rule 15. Sounds more like the hotels would like to protect one of their revenue streams.

From a business standpoint I'm not surprised, but if the FCC allows Marriott's petition, in my opinion they run the risk of contradicting themselves on the policy of an open Internet, specifically the policy of allowing consumers to attach any lawful devices to the #internet for use by the consumer.

In addition, Marriott would like the public and the FCC to believe that this is not a net neutrality issue. Granted I'm no fan of net neutrality but if you want to promote consumer access to websites of their choice, shouldn't the FCC ensure that the consumer can access those sites using the lawful devices of their choice?

Given the proliferation of hot spots, it makes better business sense for hotels to discontinue their Wi-Fi services. Over 80% of consumers have cell phones and hot spots are less expensive than phones. Simply put in your brochures that you do not offer Wi-Fi and that you better buy a hot spot from AT&T or Verizon or a hot spot enabling smart phone before making that business trip.

The FCC does not owe Marriott or any other hotel an unencumbered revenue stream.